

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached "Replacement Sheet" of drawings includes changes to Figure 4. The attached "Replacement Sheet," which includes Figure 4, replaces the original sheets including Figure 4.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are presently pending in the application. Claims 4, 5, 6, 10, 12 and 13 have been amended. The drawings and specification have been amended. No new matter has been added.

RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 1-5, drawn to a slotted member, classified in class 138, subclass 119.
- II. Claims 6-13, drawn to a propshaft assembly, classified in class 464, subclass 180.
- III. Claims 14-17, drawn to a method of making a propshaft assembly, classified in class 29, subclass 517.

Applicant provisionally elects claims 1-5 of group I with traverse without prejudice to pursuing the non-elected claims in subsequent divisional or continuation applications.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.143, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the restriction requirement since the claimed subject matter of groups I and II are sufficiently related such that an undue burden would not be presented to the Examiner by maintaining all of the claims in this application.

In the event that the Examiner maintains the restriction requirement, Applicant has revised independent claims 6 and 13 to more clearly define the claims as being drawn to group I as defined by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the restriction requirement and that the Examiner substantively examine claims 1-13.

DRAWINGS

The drawings are objected to because of certain informalities.

Applicant has revised paragraph 21 of the specification to note that the yoke assembly is identified by reference numeral 208 and that the yolk flange is identified at reference numeral 210. Also, the Applicant has revised Figure 4 to note the location of the hollow central cavity 220 and removed reference numerals 224 and 226. A marked-up version of Figure 4 in red ink has been provided for the Examiner's convenience. Applicant respectfully requests entry of a replacement sheet depicting amended Figure 4. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

SPECIFICATION

The specification is objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.71 and 1.75(d)(1) because the detailed description fails to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter in claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 11 and 14-17.

The subject matter of claims 2, 4, 5, 8 and 11 is described by Figures 4 and 5 as well as paragraphs 24, 25, 30 and 31. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to the specification.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 4, 5, 10 and 12 are objected to because of certain informalities.

Claims 4, 5, 10 and 12 have been amended to clarify the claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to these claims are not narrowing amendments. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to the claims.

CONCLUSION

All of the grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding office action.

If it is believed that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600. Prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 24, 2004

By: Donald G. Walker
Donald G. Walker, Reg. No. 44,390

Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303
Phone: (248) 641-1600
Facsimile: (248) 641-0270

DGW:jm



PROPSHAFT ASSEMBLY WITH DAMPER

Inventor(s): Ralph Tomonelli

Atty. Ref.: 9539-000089

Annotated Sheet showing Changes

3/4

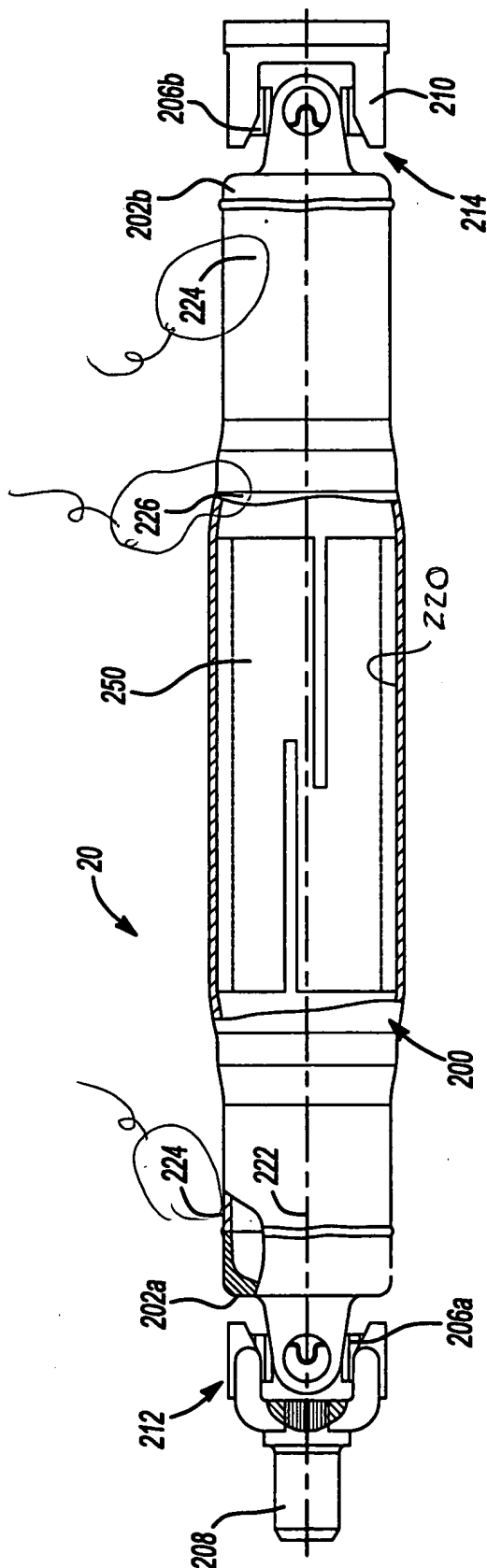


Fig-4